

SECRET

Meeting of the Interdepartmental Group
on START Policy

March 8, 1983

PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS

State

RADM Jonathan T. Howe (Chairman)

NSC

Sven Kraemer

ACDA

James George

OSD

Richard Perle

CIA



JCS

COL Robert Williams

The IG discussed the Soviet PL-5 ICBM test and the START Developments paper. [redacted] reviewed the Intelligence Community assessment of the PL-5. The IG agreed to drop the "do nothing" option in the paper. There was agreement that our interim restraints policy should be the subject of a separate and broader review. Accordingly, the IG agreed to separate the interim restraints section from the rest of the paper and address that issue subsequently. The IG will address the issue of the PL-5 and how we handle this with the Soviets in a new paper that incorporates the relevant parts of the old paper but includes an updated intelligence Community assessment, the options for handling this with the Soviets, and a section addressing our overall strategy. This revised version is to be completed within two weeks.

SECRET
DECL: OADR

NSC review completed.

SECRET

-2-

On the START Developments paper, there was discussion of both phasing and missile/bomber aggregation. On phasing, the discussion centered on whether to maintain the existing two-phase structure, to combine the two phases of START at the current or a higher throw-weight level, or to retain the phasing structure while moving cruise missiles into the first phase. This was identified as an issue for the NSC. State will circulate a draft decision paper later in the week. On the aggregation issue it was decided to defer a decision until after the President has made his decisions following the recommendations of his Commission on Strategic Forces.

SECRET